2014 Annual Alberta

Labour Market Review

Employment . Unemployment . Economic Regions

Migration . Aboriginal People . Industries

Occupations . Education . Demographics

Alberta

Government

Employment

Alberta had the highest employment growth rate in the country

Alberta's employment in 2014 was 48,400 higher than in 2013. The province's total employment rose to 2,274,600 in 2014, a 2.2% increase from the level in 2013. Alberta had the highest annual growth rate of employment among the ten provinces at 2.2% in 2014 (See Figure 1). Employment in Canada rose 0.6% in 2014.

Employment for men in Alberta grew by 3.0% or 36,700, and for women, it rose by 1.2% or 11,600 in 2014. Men and women in Alberta aged 25 to 44 years old accounted for the largest share of employment increase at 67.0% and 108.6% respectively. Employment growth of 10.3% for women aged 65 years and older was higher than the provincial rate of 2.2% in 2014.

In 2014, full time employment in Alberta increased by 26,900 and part-time employment increased by 21,500. Albertans 55 years and older increases were all in full-time employment. Full-time employment for men 55 years and older increased by 4.9% or 9,400 and for women the same age, by 3.3% or 4,000.

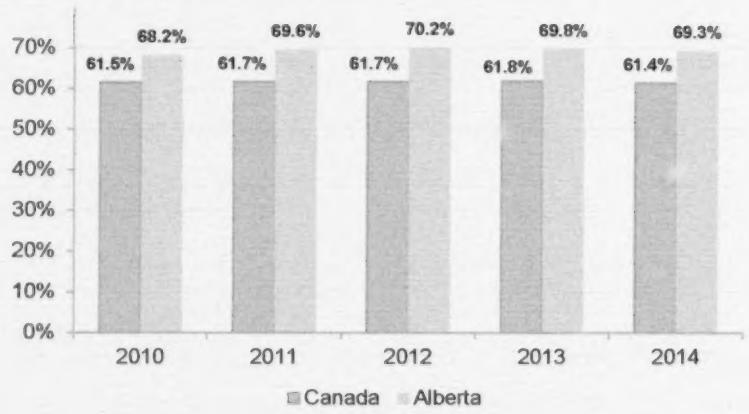
Figure 1

Provincial and National Employment, 2014

Province	Employment	Change from 2013	Per cent change
Alberta	2,274,600	48,400	2.2%
Newfoundland and Labrador	238,600	-4,100	-1.7%
Prince Edward Island	74,000	-100	-0.1%
Nova Scotia	447,600	-5,000	-1.1%
New Brunswick	353,900	-600	-0.2%
Quebec	4,059,700	-1,100	0.0%
Ontario	6,877,900	54,500	0.8%
Manitoba	626,500	700	0.1%
Saskatchewan	570,900	5,600	1.0%
British Columbia	2,278,400	12,800	0.6%
Canada	17,802,200	111,100	0.6%

Figure 2

Alberta and Canada Employment Rates, 2010-2014



[1] *The employment rates measures the portion of the working age population (15 years and older) who are employed.*

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Employment rate in Alberta was the highest in Canada

In 2014, Alberta's employment rate of 69.3% continued to be the highest among all provinces. The Canadian employment rate was 61.4%. Alberta's rate of 69.3% was 0.5 percentage points lower than the year before, but higher than in 2010 (See Figure 2).

The employment rates for men and women in Alberta were 75.5% and 63.0% respectively, the highest among all provinces in 2014. The national employment rate was 65.4% for men and 57.6% for women.

At 72.7%, Alberta had the highest participation rate[2] in the country in 2014. The national participation rate was 66.0%. In Alberta the male participation rate at 79.0% and the female rate at 66.2% were the highest among the ten provinces.

Employment in Alberta grew for the fourth consecutive year after declining in 2010 (See Figure 3). Annual average employment rose by 53,700 in 2013 and by 48,400 in 2014 (See Figure 4).

Figure 3

Alberta Annual Average Growth in Employment, 2010-2014

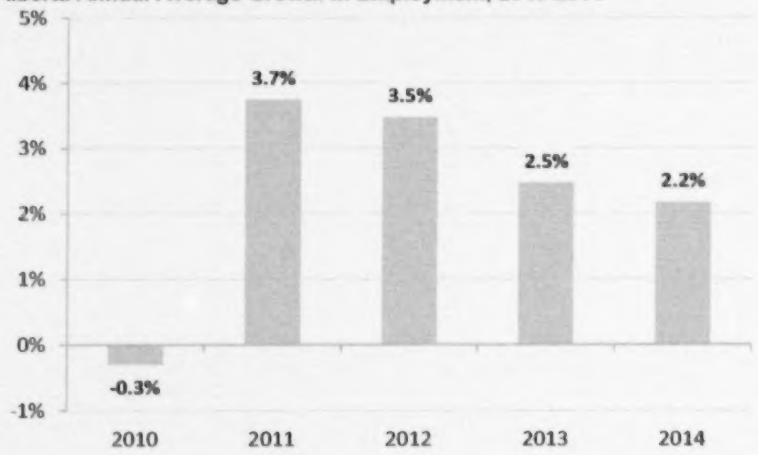
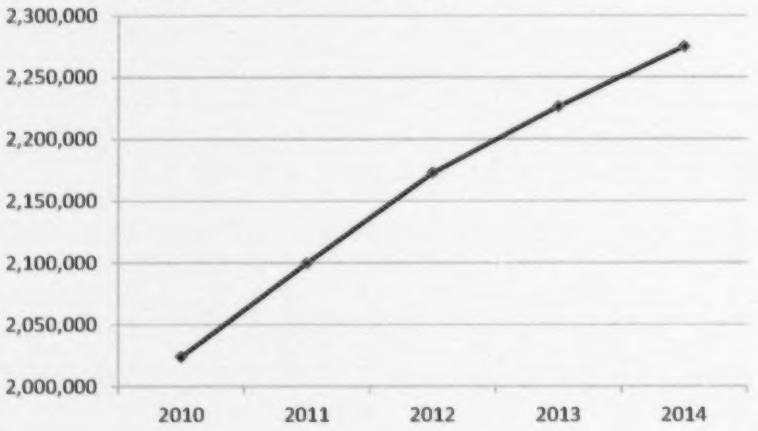


Figure 4

Alberta Annual Average Employment, 2010-2014



[2]The participation rates measures the number of people who are employed and unemployed out of the working age population (15+ years).

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Unemployment

Alberta had the second lowest unemployment rate in the country

Alberta's unemployment rate of 4.7% in 2014 increased from the previous year by 0.1 percentage point from 4.6% (See Figure 5). This was the second lowest of the ten provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 3.8% (See Figure 6). The unemployment rate for Alberta men decreased to 4.5% from 4.6% in 2014; while the unemployment rate for Alberta women increased to 4.9% from 4.6%. In 2014, Alberta men and women had the second lowest unemployment rate of the ten provinces after their counterparts in Saskatchewan, at 3.9% and 3.8% respectively.

The number of unemployed people in Alberta increased by 4,800 between 2013 and 2014. Male unemployment increased by 600, and for females, increased by 4,200 in 2014, compared to the year before.

The unemployment rate for Alberta youth increased from 8.5% to 9.5% in 2014, the second lowest in all provinces after Saskatchewan's rate of 7.4%. In 2014, Alberta's female youth unemployment rate of 9.2% was lower than the male youth rate of 9.9%.

Figure 5

Alberta and Canada Unemployment Rates, 2010-2014

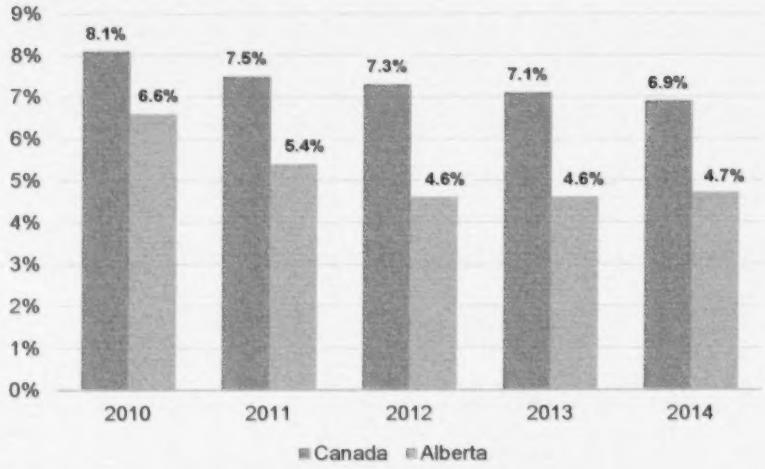
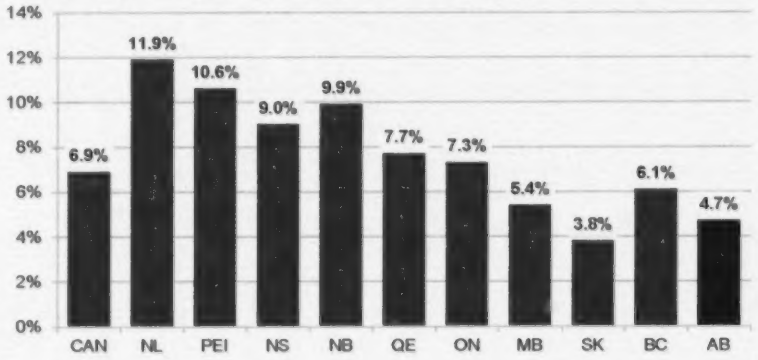


Figure 6

Provincial and National Unemployment Rates, 2014



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Economic Regions

The unemployment rate fell in Lethbridge-Medicine Hat economic region for the third consecutive year

In 2014, the unemployment rate decreased the most in the Red Deer region, by 1.1 percentage points (See Figure 7). The unemployment rate fell in Lethbridge-Medicine Hat economic region for the third consecutive year. At 3.4%, the unemployment rate in the Camrose-Drumheller region was the lowest of the seven regions in 2014 (See Figure 8). The Edmonton region had the highest unemployment rate at 5.0%.

Employment rose in all but one region, Camrose-Drumheller. This region saw a small decline in employment of 1,300 in 2014. The Calgary region had the largest increase in employment, 19,300 in 2013, followed by Edmonton with an increase of 17,400.

Figure 7

Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary Economic Regions, Unemployment Rates in 2010-2014

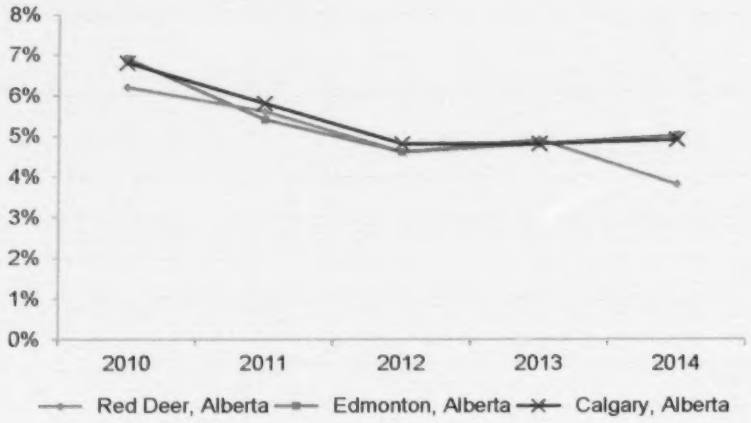
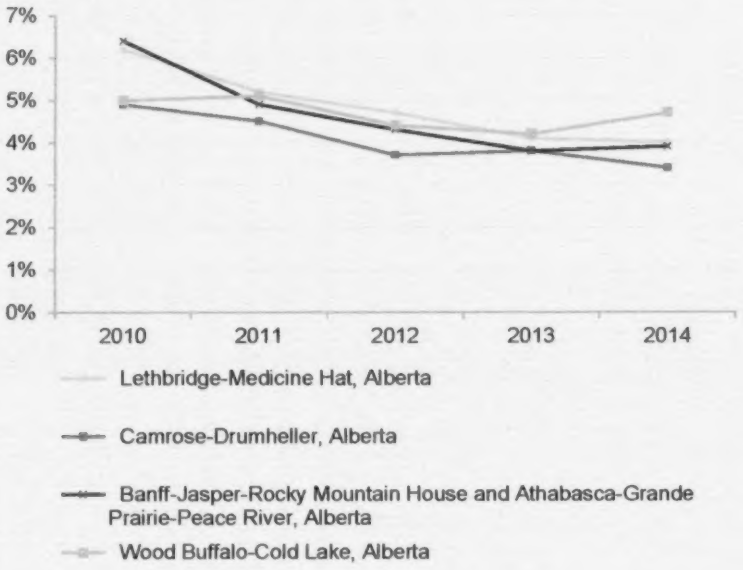


Figure 8

Economic Regions for the Rest of Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2010-2014



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Migration

In-migration to Alberta outnumbered out-migration

In 2013, Alberta saw increases in the numbers of interprovincial in-migrants, temporary foreign workers and landed immigrants compared to the year before. The number of net interprovincial migrants to Alberta from other provinces was 36,018 in 2013 (See Figure 9).

The number of immigrants who landed in Alberta in 2013 was 544 higher than the year before.

For temporary foreign workers coming to Alberta, the 2011 increase reversed one year of decline in 2010, when the number who came to Alberta fell. The number of temporary foreign workers who came to Alberta increased by more than 3,000 in 2013 compared to 2012.

In the first three quarters of 2014 there were 22,785 net provincial migrants and 18,637 landed immigrants (See Figure 10). In the first two quarters of 2014 there were 18,629 temporary foreign workers that came to Alberta.

Figure 9

Alberta Interprovincial Migration, 2011-2014[3]

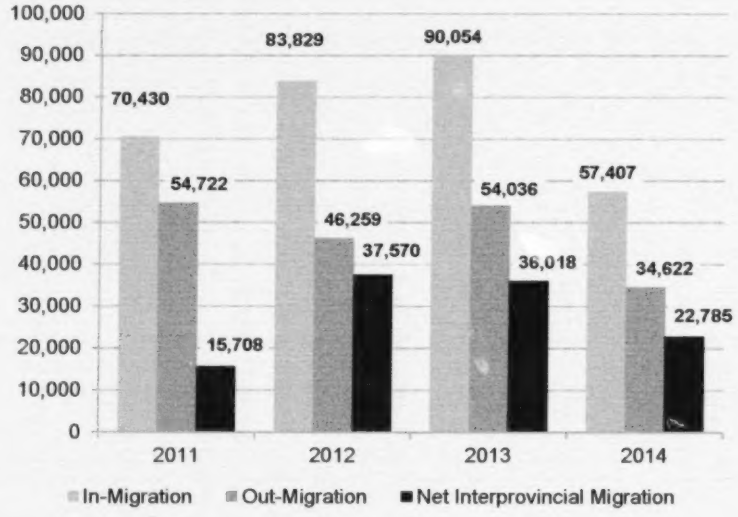
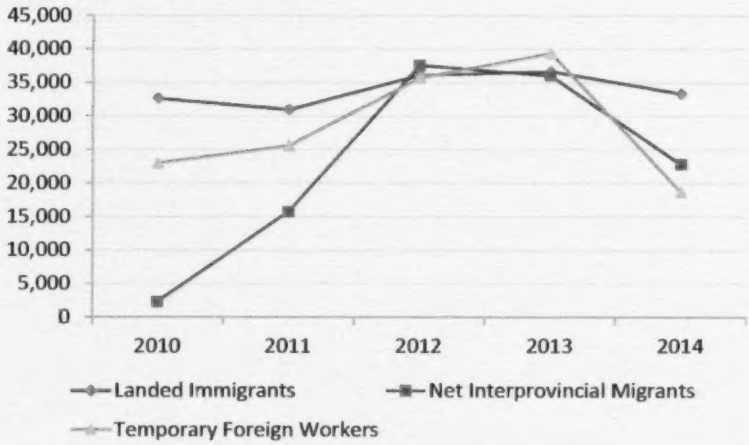


Figure 10

Alberta Landed Immigrants, Net Interprovincial Migrants and Temporary Foreign Workers, 2010-2014[3]



[3] *2014 data on net migration and landed immigrants based on first three quarters. Temporary foreign workers based on first two quarters.*

Source: Statistics Canada; Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Aboriginal People

Alberta Aboriginal people living off-reserve had the highest employment rate in the country

In 2014, the employment rate for Alberta Aboriginal people living off-reserve was 66.4%, the highest employment rate of all off-reserve Aboriginal people among the ten provinces. Saskatchewan had the second highest employment rate, at 56.9%. The average employment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Canada was 57.0% in 2014.

Employment for off-reserve Aboriginal people in Alberta increased by 5.2% or 4,800 in 2014. This was the second highest increase among the ten provinces, behind Ontario at 11,100 or 10.0%. Employment for off-reserve Aboriginal people in Canada rose by 3.9%.

More than 80% of all employed off-reserve Aboriginal people worked in four economic regions in Alberta: 59.9% in Calgary and Edmonton, and 23.0% in the Banff - Jasper - Rocky Mountain House and Athabasca - Grande Prairie - Peace River and the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake regions (See Figure 11).

Between 2013 and 2014, the Edmonton and Camrose - Drumheller regions saw the largest employment gains in Alberta for Aboriginal people living off-reserve of 3,200 and 1,300 respectively.

Approximately 37% of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta were employed in three industries in 2014: Construction, 15.1%; Retail Trade, 11.9%; and Health care and social assistance, 9.8%.

Figure 11
Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment by Economic Region, 2014

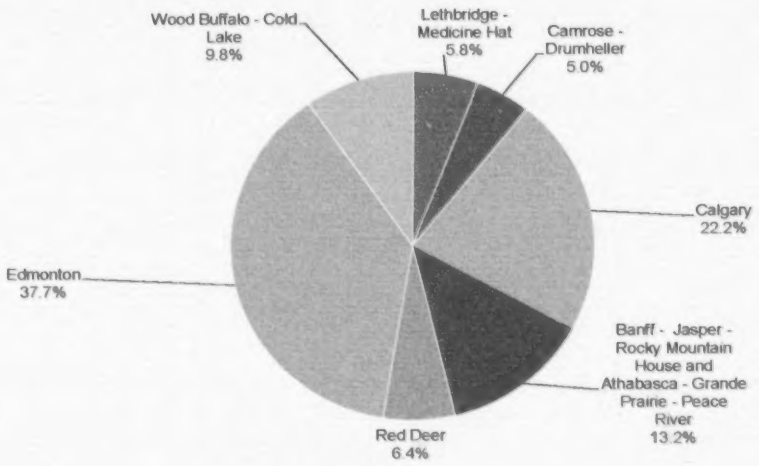
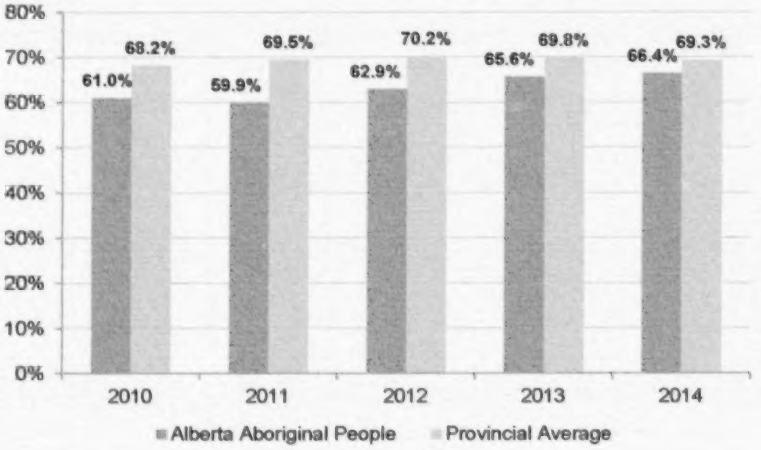


Figure 12
Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment Rates, 2010-2014



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Industries

Construction Industry had the largest gain in employment

The Construction industry had the largest increase in employment in 2014, rising by 12,400. This increase accounted for 25.6% of all employment gains in Alberta in 2014. Transportation and Warehousing had the second largest employment increase of 10,100, which represents 20.9% of all the provincial gains in employment in 2014. Employment in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services industry rose by 8,200, accounting for 16.9% of all employment increases in the province (See Figure 13).

Employment was lower in six industries in 2014: Retail Trade, down 10,100; Agriculture, down 2,800; Information, Culture and Recreation, down 2,300; Public Administration, down 1,600; Utilities, down 400; and Educational Services, down 200.

The three industries with the lowest unemployment rate in 2013 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 1.6%; Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, 1.8%; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 2.1%.

Figure 13

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Industry, 2014

Industry Group	2014 Employment	Change from 2013	Unemployment Rate
Construction	256,400	12,400	5.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	240,600	7,400	1.6%
Retail Trade	234,400	-10,100	4.9%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	184,300	8,200	2.1%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	175,300	4,700	3.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	150,000	7,300	4.2%
Manufacturing	144,500	1,800	2.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	129,900	10,100	3.3%
Educational Services	124,700	-200	3.6%
Other Services[4]	122,100	7,600	2.9%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	104,700	500	1.8%
Public Administration	88,100	-1,600	*
Wholesale Trade	86,100	4,600	*
Business, Building and Other Support Services	79,100	900	4.8%
Information, Culture and Recreation	72,500	-2,300	3.5%
Agriculture	60,600	-2,800	*
Utilities	18,300	-400	*
Forestry and Logging with Support Activities	3,000	300	*

[4]This sector comprises establishments not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment, and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services, and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.

**Insufficient Data*

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Occupations

Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations had the largest employment gain

In 2014, employment rose for seven of the ten occupational groups in Alberta. The Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations had the biggest increase of 22,600, followed by Sales and service occupations with an increase of 13,800 (See Figure 14).

The three occupational groups with decline in employment in 2014 were: Natural and applied sciences and related occupations, down 11,100; Business, finance and administrative, 6,600; Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities, down 800.

All occupational groups had unemployment rates below 5%. Five of the ten occupational groups had unemployment rates that were less than 3%: Management, 1.0%; Health occupations, 1.3%; Natural and Applied Sciences and Related, 2.2%; Occupations in Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion, 2.5%; and Business, Finance and Administrative, 2.6%.

Figure 14

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Occupation, 2014

Occupations	2014 Employment	Change from 2013	Unemployment Rate
Management	181,900	13,200	1.0%
Business, finance and administrative	376,900	-6,600	2.6%
Natural and applied sciences and related	180,200	-11,100	2.2%
Health	135,100	2,000	1.3%
Social science, education, government service and religion	169,700	10,300	2.5%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	58,400	3,500	*
Sales and service	523,200	13,800	4.2%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	448,100	22,600	4.7%
Unique to primary industry[5]	136,100	1,400	3.0%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	65,000	-800	3.7%

**Insufficient data*

[5] Some examples of occupations included in this group are: nursery greenhouse workers, landscaping and ground maintenance labourers, underground production and development miners, chain saw and skidder operators, farmers and farm managers, logging and forestry labourers, and fishing vessel deckhands

Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

Education

The proportion of Alberta's labour force with diplomas or degrees continues to rise

The proportion of Alberta's labour force who have attained diploma, certificate or degree as highest level of education went up from 86.6% in 2010 to 88.3% in 2014 (See Figure 15).

Between 2010 and 2014, those in Alberta's labour force who had attained high school diploma as highest level of education increased by 15.9% or 77,700. This group comprised just under a quarter or 23.7%, of Alberta's labour force in 2014. The number of men and women in Alberta's labour force who had high school diplomas as highest level of education increased by 24.1% or 62,500 and 6.6% or 15,100 respectively between 2010 and 2014.

Those in Alberta's labour force who had attained post-secondary certificates or diplomas as highest level of education rose by 46,400 or 6.2% between 2010 and 2014. In 2014, this group made up 33.5% of Alberta's labour force. Alberta's labour force that had some post-secondary and a high school diploma as highest level of education fell by 22,800 or 14.5% over the 2010 to 2014 period. This group made up 7.2% of the Alberta labour force in 2010, and by 2014, it was 5.6%.

In 2014, just over a quarter or 25.5% of Alberta's labour force had a university bachelor's or graduate degree as highest level of education , which is higher than in 2010 at 22.1%. Of these, 48.2% were women in 2010; and in 2014, women made up 50.2% of Alberta's labour force with a bachelor's degree or a graduate degree.

Figure 15

Alberta Labour Force Educational Attainment Trends, 2010-2014

Educational Level	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No degree, certificate or diploma	13.4%	13.1%	12.7%	12.0%	11.7%
High School Diploma	22.5%	23.4%	24.0%	24.1%	23.7%
High School Diploma, with some post-secondary	7.2%	6.8%	6.0%	6.1%	5.6%
Trade certificate	15.0%	14.2%	14.4%	14.5%	13.4%
College diploma	17.3%	17.5%	17.7%	17.5%	17.6%
Certificat or diploma below Bachelor's Degree	2.4%	2.6%	2.4%	2.0%	2.4%
University: Bachelor's Degree	16.4%	16.3%	16.4%	17.2%	18.0%
University: Graduate Degree	5.7%	6.1%	6.4%	6.5%	7.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Demographics

Employment rose for three of four age groups

Employment in 2014, compared to 2013, was higher for three of four age groups (See Figure16). Of the four age groups, those aged 25 to 44 had the largest employment increase of 37,100 or 3.6%. Employment grew by 3,800 or 4.8%, for Albertans 65 years and over, the highest employment growth rate among the four age groups. Employment for youth 15 to 24 years of age decreased by 3,700 or 1.1% in 2014 compared to 2013.

The employment rate for youth 15 to 24 years of age fell 1.1 percentage points in 2014 compared to 2013 (See Figure 17). However, the Alberta youth employment rate of 61.0% was 5.5 percentage points above the rate for Canadian youth, at 55.5%. The employment rate for youth in Alberta was the second highest among the ten provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 61.9%.

The employment rate for Albertans aged 25 to 44 was 83.8% in 2014, the second highest among the ten provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 84.6%. The employment rate for Canadians in this age group was 81.4%. At 18.6%, Albertans aged 65 years and over had the second highest employment rate among their provincial counterparts, after Saskatchewan's rate of 19.7%. The national employment rate for the same age group was 12.9% in 2014.

Figure 16
Alberta Employment by Age Groups, 2013-2014

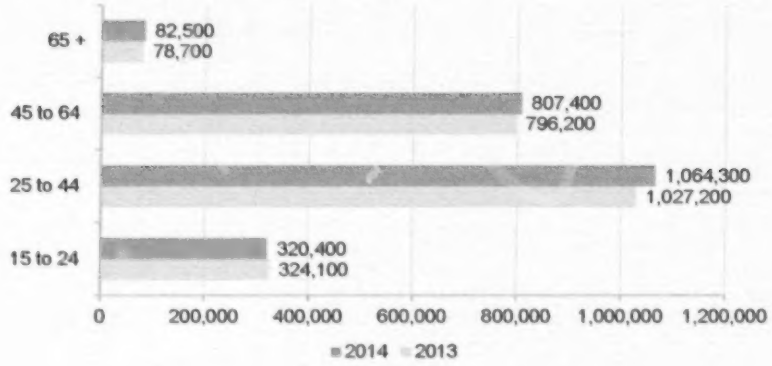
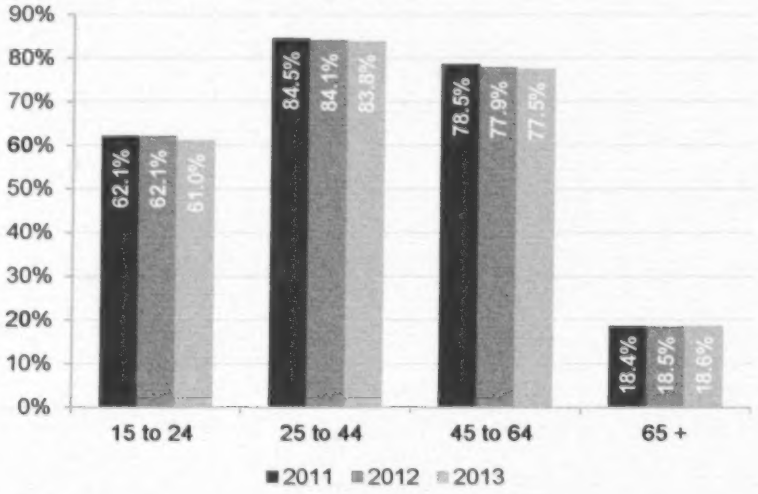


Figure 17
Alberta Employment Rates by Age Groups, 2012-2014



Source: Statistics Canada; Labour Force Survey

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